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Message Text

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11
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-10 ERDA-07 OES-06 CIAE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

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TO USIA WASHDC
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SECDEF WASHDC
CINCPAC HONOLULU

UNCLAS TOKYO 12024

USIAC

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: TELEPHONE POLL ON ATOMIC POWER AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS

SUMMARY: SANKEI PHONE SURVEY IN TOKYO AND OSAKA AREAS AUGUST 4 FOUND SHARP CHANGE FROM 1974 IN ATTITUDE ON A-PLANT SAFETY, ALTHOUGH HALF REMAIN NEGATIVE. IN RESPONSE TO PROBE QUESTION, ONLY ONE THIRD STUCK BY NEGATIVE VOTE. BUT VOTE WAS ALMOST FOUR TO ONE AGAINST A-PLANT CONSTRUCTION NEAR RESPONDENT'S OWN HOME. QUESTIONS ON JAPAN HAVING ITS OWN NUCLEAR WEAPONS FOUND (1) LITTLE CHANGE FROM 1975 RESULTS OF NEAR EQUAL PERCENTAGES FORESEEING JAPAN HAVING SUCH ARMS IN FUTURE, (2) 64 PERCENT CONSIDERING IT UNDESIRABLE FOR JAPAN TO HAVE OWN N-ARMS, (3) 60 PERCENT FOR UPHOLDING THREE NON-NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES, BUT (4) NEAR EQUAL NUMBERS SAYINGJAPAN'S LACKING N-ARMS DOES OR DOES NOT MAKE THEM UNEASY ABOUT JAPAN'S SECURITY. END SUMMARY
DETAILS OF QUESTIONS AND FINDINGS:

Q.1 DO YOU TRUST NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS TO BE SAFE, OR ARE YOU UNEASY ABOUT THEIR NOT BEING SAFE?
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1974 1976

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TRUST THEM AS SAFE 15 31
UNEASY ABOUT THEIR NOT BEING SAFE 77 50
DON'T KNOW 8 19
IN 1974 POLL, THIS WAS FIFTH QUESTION IN SURVEY ENTIRELY ON A-PLANTS; AND NEGATIVE CHOICE WAS "UNEASY ABOUT THEIR NOT NECESSARILY BEING SAFE." SO, DIFFERENCES BETWEEN 1974 AND 1976 RESULTS MAY NOT MEASURE REAL TREND.

Q.2 (ASKED OF THOSE ANSWERING IN NEGATIVE ON Q.1) IN CONSIDERATION OF JAPAN'S ELECTRICAL POWER SITUATION, DO YOU THINK IT IS BETTER FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ATOMIC POWER PLANTS TO PROCEED, OR DO YOU THINK IT IS BETTER NOT TO PROCEED UNTIL SAFETY MEASURES HAVE BEEN FIRMED UP?
BETTER TO PROCEED 13
BETTER NOT TO PROCEED 31
DON'T KNOW 6

Q.3 IF AN ATOMIC POWER PLANT WERE TO BE CONSTRUCTED NEAR YOUR HOME, WOULD YOU APPROVE OR OPPOSE IT?

	1974	1976
APPROVE	20	17
OPPOSE	43	64
DON'T KNOW	37	19

Q.4 IF A MEETING WERE TO BE HELD TO EXPLAIN ABOUT THE ATOMIC POWER PLANT, DO YOU THINK THAT YOU WOULD FAVOR ATTENDIN AND STUDYING THE SUBSTANCE OR DO YOU TINK THERE WOULD BE NO SENSE IN ATTENDING AND STUDYING THE MATTER AT THIS STAGE?
FAVOR ATTENDING AND STUDYING 69
NO SENSE IN ATTENDING AND STUDYING 22
DON'T KNOW 9

Q.5 DO YOU THINK THAT IN THE FUTURE JAPAN WILL COME TO HAVE ITS OWN NUCLEAR WEAPONS?

	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
THINK IT WILL	52	28	27	25	27
THINK IT WON'T	35	42	37	31	29
CAN'T SAY EITHER WAY	13	30	37	44	44

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Q.6 DO YOU FEEL UNEASINESS ABOUT SECURITY WITH JAPAN NOT HAVING ITS OWN NUCLEAR WEAPONS?

	1972	1974	1976
FEEL QUITE OR SOMEWHAT UNEASY	42	34	48
FEEL LITTLEOR NO UNEASINESS	56	63	45
DON'T KNOW		7	

Q.7 DO YOU THINK IT WOULD BEDESIRABLE OR UNDESIRABLE FOR JAPAN

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TO HAVE ITS OWN NUCLEAR WEAPONS?
DESIRABLE 9
UNDESIRABLE 64
CAN'T SAY ETHER WAY 24
DON'T KNOW 3

Q.8 DO YOU THINK THAT JAPAN'S THREE NON- NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES SHOULD NOT BE DESTROYED EVEN IF THERE ARE CHANGES IN INTER-NATIONAL SITUATION?
SHOULD NOT BE DESTROYED 60
DO NOTAGREE 25
DON'T KNOW 15
KAYS

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